

# Draft Minutes

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## **Communities of Opportunity Interim Governance Group**

*December 16, 2016, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm*

*Location: Call in option: (206) 263-0100  
Chinook Building, Room 126, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
400 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Seattle 98104*

### **Members Present:**

Scarlett Aldebot-Green, Michael Brown, Deanna Dawson, Ubax Gardheere, Betsy Jones, Gordon McHenry, Sili Savusa, Adam Taylor, Tony To

### **Staff Present:**

Andréa Akita, Dan Bernard, Sharon Bogan, Veronica Gonzalvo, Alice Ito, Cheryl Markham, Marguerite Ro

**Guests:** Andrea Estes, Ballmer Group

### **Meeting goals:**

- Welcome COO Initiative Director, Andréa Akita
- Review transition process to becoming a permanent COO Governance Group/Advisory Board
- Share and reflect on 2016 process accomplishments
- Celebrate and appreciate!

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### **Welcome and introductions – Michael and Betsy**

Betsy Jones welcomed the Communities of Opportunity Interim Governance Group members, staff and guest to the meeting. Michael Brown served as the meeting facilitator.

Andréa Akita was introduced as the new COO Initiative director. Andréa looks forward to meeting with each of the governing members and is excited to be working with COO partners. In their introductions, governance group members shared their thoughts on what COO has meant to them. Some of the themes that emerged from these reflections included the rewards and challenges behind the uniqueness of equal partnership in governing, co-designing and co-creating the initiative; COO's focus on solutions at the local/community level and being grounded in equity and social justice values and practices.

### **COO Governance Group/Advisory Board**

The King County Council approved the legislation for establishing the successor to the COO Interim Governance Group. The ordinance directs a minimum 30% turnover in members between the IGG and the new advisory board to be constituted by February 15. The IGG reviewed a summary of the requirements for board membership, including the number of seats that are appointed by King County (one each from the Executive and Council), Seattle Foundation (2 members), representatives from

place-based or cultural based communities (at least 2 members), community representatives and grassroots organizers (3 members or 20%), and other qualified members selected by the governance group. (*The summary sheet is attached.*)

Group members brainstormed ideas for capturing expertise among different sectors, such as health (health systems/hospitals, community health providers), housing (public housing, housing development community development corporations), economic prosperity (workforce development, small business, access to capital, employers), built environment (arts & culture, sustainability, and environment), community connections, and other sectors -- technology, education, academia, transportation, criminal justice. The group is interested in attracting members who are able to bridge these sectors and have demonstrated ability as “natural connectors” who are innovators and points of interconnectivity.

### **2016 Accomplishments**

Alice highlighted COO’s Accomplishments listed in the handout “*2015-2016 Process Accomplishments.*” She expressed appreciation for the work of the IGG and COO partners for their commitment to development and designing, for lessons learned and willingness to be part of a challenging journey. IGG members noted that they value the degree of trust that has been built through these processes.

As we head into a new year, the IGG reflected on opportunities to maintain and build on the progress to date; the need for awareness of impacts to communities and COO partners was noted, in light of changes in the political landscape, at both local and national level. With the addition of the Best Starts for Kids Levy funding, there will be opportunity and an emphasis on increasing community awareness of Communities of Opportunity and ways that we can leverage both public and private philanthropic resources.

COO’s accomplishments included supporting local community capacity through workshops, policy and systems grant awards, the launching of the Food Innovation Network, and co-design/collaboration across geographic sites. Capacity and community building will be a continued focus in 2017, as technical assistance, forums and learning communities will be expanded activities for COO. The members expressed enthusiasm for ways to support processes that increase connectedness, capacity and calls to action/participation.

### **Announcements: Reports from Place-Based Communities**

Each of the place-based communities provided an update. Tony To reported on activities in the **Rainier Valley**, including a number of community meetings and discussions on the Southeast Economic Opportunity Center project. The project will be a community hub and will likely include a number of elements, such as a Multi-Cultural Community Center, community-based services, educational opportunities and early learning, affordable housing, and culturally competent health care services. Adam Taylor shared a report on activities in **SeaTac/Tukwila**. Potential changes in local city funding may impact \$1.25M in State leverage for an International Marketplace, and for other program related services. G2L is partnering with a number of organizations that participate in the Food Innovation Network, such as Project FEEST, Ventures, and Highline College to open a Community Kitchen in Kent

this January. The question of how the place-based site commitment in SeaTac/Tukwila might include initiatives in neighboring communities was raised. Sili Savusa reported on the **White Center** annual survey and their strategic plan development work coming out of the survey. They are waiting for news on the Promise grant decisions from the federal government. Sili has been active, along with Tony, in the Regional Equity Network, which includes community-based organizations in King and Pierce Counties.

**Other announcements:**

- Sharon Bogan announced that KUOW has recently launched a racial equity reporting team. They are interested in sharing stories with their listeners that bring to light how racial inequities impact our region and the different approaches for addressing those inequities. Public Health will be providing background information that highlights social determinants of health. There may be ways to highlight the COO Initiative's goals and stories of collaborative work in communities to increase health, social and economic equity.
- Cheryl Markham shared the announcement on the launch of the new Regional Equitable Development Initiative (REDI) Fund, a collaboration of Enterprise Community Partners, King County, the King County Housing Authority, the City of Seattle, the Low Income Investment Fund, the Living Cities Blended Catalyst Fund (the State of Washington/King County) and A Regional Coalition for Housing to create a \$21 M revolving loan fund. The new financing is designed to preserve and create affordable homes in transit-accessible areas for low-and moderate-income households, many of whom spend more than half of their incomes on housing and transportation.

**Appreciation & Adjourn**

Betsy thanked all of the IGG members for their contributions and your hard work over the past year. She gave special thanks to Scarlett for her work with the Implementation Plan and behind the scenes work on COO priorities with the County Council members.

**Upcoming IGG meetings:**

- January 20, 2-4 pm, Seattle Foundation, new offices at: 1601 5th Avenue, Suite 1900
- Future 2017 Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday's of the month meetings alternately between King County Chinook building and Seattle Foundation

## **Attachment: King County Ordinance – COO Governance (Handout 12/16/16)**

### **Board Membership & Representation**

Membership: 14 minimum; 18 maximum. The size shall be determined by the IGG.

The ordinance directs a minimum 30 percent turnover in members between the interim governance group and the advisory board as initially constituted, by February 15, 2017

### **Experience & Commitment to Equity and Social Justice**

- Improving health/well-being outcomes in communities with greatest need for improvement
  - Experience in areas of housing, health, social and community connection, and/or economic prosperity
  - Living in or working in affected communities
  - Working in community-based organization (nonprofit, intermediary, business or institution)
  - Recognition that strategies may vary for different populations, different locations
- A. **Founder Appointments**
- 2 members appointed by Seattle Foundation
  - 1 appointed by County Executive, confirmed by Council Ordinance
  - 1 appointed by County Council, confirmed by Council Ordinance
- B. **Geographic or Cultural Based Communities**
- At least 2 members who are representatives designated by entities that have been awarded COO funding for geographic or cultural community-based partnership.
  - Term: At least 1 year; no more than 3 years.
  - These members determine their rotation schedule
- C. **Community Members**
- At least 20% or 3 members who reflect demographic characteristics of communities that qualify for funding and who are grassroots organizers or activists in such communities, and who live or have worked in such communities
  - Term: 3 years, with possibility for one renewal term.
  - Recommended to County Executive (IGG or successor Advisory Board) and confirmed by Council
- D. **Selected by Interim Governance Group /Advisory Board**
- Term: 3 years, with possibility for one renewal
  - Appointments are recommended to Executive and approved by Council

### **Board Membership Selection Process (Community Member/Others Selected by Board)**

- Announcement and Outreach: New Advisory Board members sought for COO.
- Letters of Interest received via the King County website.
- Qualifications reviewed (based on COO/BSK Equity and Social Justice commitment and experience described in Ordinance).
- Review and appointment selection by Interim Governance Group.
- Recommendations to King County Executive.
- Appointment by Executive (within 30 days of receiving recommendations) and confirmation by Council by motion.

**Founder Appointments**

1. Seattle Foundation Appointment	Michael Brown	No term limit
2. Seattle Foundation Appointment		
3. King County Executive Appointment	Betsy Jones	
4. King County Council Appointment	Katherine Cortes	

**Geographic or Cultural Based Communities**

5. Community Representative		At least 1 year term with Maximum 3 year term
6. Community Representative-		

*At least 2 who are representatives from COO community-based partnerships. These members determine their rotation schedule.*

**Community/Grassroots/Activists**

7. Community Member		2017-2020: 3 year term, With potential for one additional 3 year term
8. Community Member		
9. Community Member		

*At least 20% or 3 members who reflect demographic characteristics of communities and who are grassroots organizers or activists in such communities, and who live or have worked in such communities*

**Selected by Advisory Board**

10. COO Member		2017-2020: 3 year term, With potential for one additional 3 year term
11. COO Member		
12. COO Member		
13. COO Member		
14. (MIMIMUM ) COO Member		<i>*may be a Community or Place-Based representative</i>
15. COO Member		
16. COO Member		
17. COO Member		
18. (MAXIMUM) COO Member		

*\*New member requirement: 30% of members (5)*

**Interim Governance Group Members:**

1. Scarlett Aldebot-Green, King County Council
2. Michael Brown, Seattle Foundation
3. Deanna Dawson, Sound Cities Association
4. David Fleming, PATH
5. Ubax Gardheere, City of Seattle
6. Patty Hayes, Public Health-Seattle & King County
7. Betsy Jones, Executive's Office, King County
8. Paola Maranan, Children's Alliance
9. Gordon McHenry, Jr, Solid Ground
10. Jeff Natter, Pacific Hospital PDA
11. John Page, Village of Hope boardmember
12. Adrienne Quinn, King County Department of Community and Human Services
13. Sili Savusa, White Center CDA
14. Adam Taylor, Global to Local
15. Tony To, HomeSight
16. Michael Woo, Got Green founder, volunteer